

Claim Rejections under 35 USC § 112 and § 103 have been withdrawn due to Examiner's Amendment.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a personal interview with an applicant's representative Michael A. Cofield (Reg. No.: 54,630) on Wednesday, September 24, 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

1-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:
means for identifying a first party indicating a first preset transacting criteria;

means for matching second preset transacting criteria to the first preset transacting criteria, the second preset transacting criteria corresponding to a second different party;

means for determining if an automated machine-to-machine transaction is to be executed responsive to the matching, and if the automated machine-to-machine transaction is to be executed, immediately executing the automated

Art Unit: 3628

machine-to-machine transaction based on the first and second preset transaction criteria;

means for transferring Uniform Resource Locator (URL) information to the parties for establishing a web-collaboration session between the first and second parties responsive to identifying the parties when the automated machine-to-machine transaction is not executed, the web-collaboration session to be established initially without any call center agents initially included in the web-collaboration session;

means for signaling a call center agent to join the web-collaboration session and facilitate manual transaction completion responsive to an invitation from one of the parties;

means for recording negotiations that are transferred through the URL between the parties and that are for manually completing the transaction between the parties when the automated machine-to-machine transaction is not executed, the recorded negotiations including any communications from the parties and the call center agent; and

means for providing the recorded negotiations to one or both of the parties responsive to a record request from either party[. . .];

means for monitoring packetized workflow procurement process communications exchanged between the parties to determine whether final receipts are sent to indicate consummation of the manually completed transaction, and when the manually completed transaction is not consummated, identify one or more exceptions responsible for disrupting consummation of the manually completed transaction;

means for determining whether the identified exceptions are a first flagged type that occurs when a sending application involved in the web-based collaboration session does not receive a confirmation within a predetermined time period, a second flagged type that occurs when either one or more networks for the parties are unable to transfer one or more of the packetized workflow procurement process communications, or a third flagged type that occurs when

Art Unit: 3628

the packetized workflow procurement process communications include an out of bounds security parameter;

means for generating the notification when the identified exceptions are one of the flagged types;

means for formatting the generated notification to indicate the determined flagged type; and

means for sending an electronic communication to distribute the formatted notification, wherein the formatted notification is distributed according to the flagged type determination.

12-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 11 [[13]] further comprising:

means for accessing a database that lists both potential distributees for the generated notification including agents corresponding to the parties and business information corresponding to the agents;

means for generating, using the database and according to the business information, a ranked listing of the agents for intelligently distributing the generated notification; and

means for distributing a notification to one or more of the agents intelligently according to the ranked listing to resolve the exceptions identified by monitoring the packetized workflow procurement process communications.

15. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 11 further comprising means for providing video conferencing, web meeting, instant messaging, and internet collaboration for conducting the web collaboration session.

Art Unit: 3628

16. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 15, wherein the internet collaboration includes means for page sharing, follow-me, form share, text chat, application demonstrations, application sharing, whiteboarding, and seek-and-find.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:
one or more processors; and
a memory coupled to the processors comprising instructions executable by the processors, the processors operable when executing the instructions to:
identify first transaction criteria corresponding to a first party;
analyze an exchange to identify second transaction criteria that matches with the first transaction criteria, the second transaction criteria corresponding to a second party;
send communications to both an endpoint corresponding to the first party and an endpoint corresponding to the second party, the communications including a mutual URL, the communications sent proactively and independently of any requests from one party identifying the other party;
establish the web-based collaboration session between the parties if both the endpoints launch web applications responsive to receiving the communications including the mutual URL, the web-based collaboration session initially established without any call center agents initially included in the web-based collaboration session;
after establishing the web-based collaboration session, provide current market information of a business deal to said first party and said second party through the web-based collaboration session;
transact said business deal between the first party and the second party through the web-based collaboration session without signaling for any call center

Art Unit: 3628

agents to join the web-based collaboration session at any time between session establishment and deal transaction if no invitations are received; and

responsive to receiving an invitation from one of the parties over the session, signal a call center agent to launch the web application and join the web-based collaboration session, and after the call center agent joins, transact the deal between the first party and the second party[[.]];

monitor packetized workflow procurement process communications exchanged between the parties to determine whether final receipts are sent to indicate consummation of the transaction, and when the transaction is not consummated, identify one or more exceptions responsible for disrupting consummation of the transaction;

determine whether the identified exceptions are a first flagged type that occurs when a sending application involved in the web-based collaboration session does not receive a confirmation within a predetermined time period, a second flagged type that occurs when a network is unable to transfer one or more of the packetized workflow procurement process communications, or a third flagged type that occurs when the packetized workflow procurement process communications include an out of bounds security parameter;

generate the notification when the identified exceptions are one of the flagged types;

format the generated notification to indicate the determined flagged type;
and

send an electronic communication to distribute the formatted notification,
wherein the formatted notification is distributed according to the flagged type determination.

19. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 18, wherein the processors are further operable to determine whether an automated machine-to-machine transaction is to be completed responsive to the matching, and if the machine-to-machine transaction is to be completed, completing the automated

Art Unit: 3628

machine-to-machine transaction based on the purchasing and selling criteria without manual involvement from the parties.

20. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 18, wherein the processors are further operable to record communications sent by the parties through the web applications for providing an audit trail of the transacted business deal.

21. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 18, wherein the processors are further operable to cause a same navigation target Uniform Resource Locator (URL) to be provided to the launched web applications to establish the web-based collaboration session between the parties.

22. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 18, wherein the processors are further operable to remotely establish video conferencing, web meeting, instant messaging, and internet collaboration directly between the parties.

23. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 22, wherein the internet collaboration includes page sharing, follow-me, form share, text chat, application demonstrations, application sharing, whiteboarding, and seek-and-find features.

24-25. (Cancelled)

26. (Currently Amended) The apparatus system of Claim 11, further comprising means for remotely establishing a video communication session directly between the first party and the second party.

Art Unit: 3628

27. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 18, wherein the processors are further operable to:

establish video communication directly between the first party and the second party.

28-30. (Cancelled)

31. (Currently Amended) The apparatus system of claim 11 [[30]] further comprising:

means for comparing the determined flag type to a database that lists both potential distributees for the generated notification including agents corresponding to the parties and business information corresponding to the agents the business information, the comparison for ranking potential target agents for intelligent distribution of the generated notification; and

means for distributing the generated notification according to the target agent ranking.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 11, 14-16, 18-23, 26, 27 and 31 are allowed.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure (see form PTO-892):

US 2005/0021713 A1	Dugan et al.
US 6,779,030	Dugan et al.
US 6,363,411	Dugan et al.
US 6, 418,461	Dugan et al.

Art Unit: 3628

The identified references disclose a telecommunications switching network for providing collaboration activities between business entities employing calling agents, wherein communication disruptions are monitored.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submission should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reason for Allowance".

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Igor Borissov whose telephone number is 571-272-6801. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John W. Hayes can be reached on 571-272-6708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Igor N. Borissov/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3628
09/25/2008